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Thirsk Rural District Council

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Public Health Inspector
for the year
1960



THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Lt. Col. M. C. W. P. Consett, J.P.
(Ex-officio Member of Health Committee)

VICE CHAIRMAN:

A. H. Gill
(Chairman of Health Committee)

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W. F. Barton (F):	T. M. Jopling (PH):
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P. Hatch (F):	Brig. J. F. Walker, J.P. (PH:F):

(H indicates Member of Housing Committee; PH indicates Member of Public Health Committee; F indicates Member of Finance and General Purposes Committee)

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

H. Gray, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector

R. M. Shaphouse, C.S.I.B., A.I. Hsg.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

A. N. Errington, C.S.I.B., (Cert. Meat & Other Foods)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1960.

To: the Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present for your consideration my Annual Report for the year.

The statistics on the following two pages call for little comment. Our birth rate is a little higher than for the whole country, 19.9 against 17.1 and the death rate about exactly the same. An unwelcome feature has been the rise in infant deaths during the past 4 years, the numbers being 4, 5, 5 and 10 in 1960. Whilst chance may play a large part in this sort of fluctuation, especially when the numbers involved are small it is a feature that requires watching carefully. 6 of these 10 deaths occurred to infants less than 1 week old. There would appear to be no difficulty in the district in obtaining hospital facilities for childbirth, as only 30% of confinements took place at home, a proportion which is accepted as being about right.

In the environmental field a little progress was made in housing,, particularly for aged people, the water supply improved, but no progress except on paper was made with sewerage.

A welcome feature from an economic point of view is the establishment of a rapidly expanding poultry industry, providing employment particularly for female labour. This cannot but add to the prosperity of the district which in its turn may well provide the means of expediting those extensive improvements which are required.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GRAY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Area of district	71,544 Acres
Estimated population Mid 1960... ..	13,680
Number of Houses - Privately owned ...	3,279
Council	627
Crown Property ...	265
Rateable Value	£146,183
Product of a Penny Rate... ..	£597
Live Births..	252
Birth Rate/1,000 population	18.4
Corrected Birth Rate	19.9
Illegitimate Live Births were 9 representing 3.6% of total Live Births.	
Still Births - 5. Rate/1,000 Live and Still Births -	19.5
Total Live and Still Births	257
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year).. ...	10
<u>Infant Mortality Rates.</u>	
Total infant deaths/1,000 Live Births (10 deaths)	39.6
" " " (England and Wales)	21.7
Legitimate infant deaths/1,000 Legitimate Live Births.. ...	33.0
Illegitimate infant deaths/1,000 Illegitimate Live Births ...	222
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per	
1,000 total Live Births)	28.0
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per	
1,000 total Live Births)	23.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under	
1 week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)	42.8
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	
Number of Deaths	Nil
Rate/1,000 Live and Still Births	Nil
<u>Deaths -</u> Male Female Total	
89 70 159	
Crude death rate/1,000 population	11.6
Corrected death rate (Factor 1.01)	11.7
England & Wales	11.5

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic diseases	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and par. diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm - stomach	2	-
11. " " - lung, bronchus	3	-
12. " " - breast	-	5
13. " " - uterus	-	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	2
16. Diabetes	2	-
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	12	13
18. Coronary diseases, angina	18	10
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
20. Other heart diseases	7	22
21. Other circulatory diseases	3	3
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	3	2
24. Bronchitis	6	1
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	-	-
26. Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	3	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	2
34. All other accidents	5	-
35. Suicide	3	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
TOTAL	89	70

Notifiable Diseases.

The following cases were notified during the year:-

Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	10 cases
Scarlet Fever	..	...	...	...	11
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	9
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	7
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	2
Measles...	...	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1

The interesting feature is the virtual disappearance of Measles during 1960 following the previous epidemic year. There is a disturbing rise in cases of Sonne Dysentery - a disease in which only a minority of cases became notified. In many cases of course a short, sharp attack of diarrhoea and vomiting does not take the patient to the doctor, and it is usual to find that when investigating a notified case, many others are found with symptoms in the family, school or neighbourhood. The Council is concerned to carry out its obligations under the Clean Food Legislation, but these in the main relate to premises and equipment necessary for the preparation and handling food hygienically. Only education of and the realism by food handlers that constant care and cleanliness in methods is of even greater importance. It is not unknown for kitchen staff to remain at work whilst ill with diarrhoea - a situation in which widespread dissemination of infection can occur.

Water Supplies.

The boiling order placed on the Thirsk Water Company's supply continued well into the year due to the time taken to rectify certain engineering faults in storage and chlorination. Negotiations continued during the year aimed at incorporating the district within the new enlarged Ryedale Water Board area. At the same time considerable progress was made in improving the main deficiencies and in taking additional supplies of water from a neighbouring authority. The rapid growth of the new industry of poultry rearing and packing has led to increasing demands on water and will have inevitable repercussions in the field of sewage disposal.

Careful check on the bacterial quality and efficiency of chlorination was maintained throughout the year.

Sewerage.

A detailed survey of the whole area follows later in the report, in which it will be seen that whilst the majority of the population of the area enjoy the benefits of a good system, an enormous amount of work is required to be done before the Council can relax its efforts in this field. It is hoped that the adoption by the Ministry of a new system of grant-aid will remove financial doubts and enable more rapid progress to be made with the numerous minor schemes which remain to be carried out.

County Council Health Services in the Area.

Ambulance Service - at Castlegarth - Telephone Thirsk 2234. After 10 p.m. the station is not manned but ambulance can be obtained by telephoning Northallerton 446.

Nursing Services.

+ Sinderby, Holme, Pickhill, Ainderby Quernhow.	Nurse Lockhart, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., 1, North House Lane, Baldersby.	Tel. Melmerby 66.
Thirsk, Sowerby, N. & S. Kilvington, Sutton, Thornborough, Hood Grange, Balk, Thirkleby, Bagby, Thirlby, Osgoodby, Brawith, Cowesby, Kepwick, Upsall, Boltby, Kirby Knowle, Felixkirk, Thornton-le-Street, Thornton-le-Moor, Newby Wiske, N. & S. Otterington, Maunby, Kirby Wiske, Newsham, Sandhutton, Carlton Miniott.	Nurse Bradley, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., 19, Victoria Avenue, Sowerby, Thirsk.) Vacancy for second Nurse. (double district).	Tel. Thirsk 2133.
+ Langthorpe, Ellenthorpe, Milby, Kirby Hill, Humberton, Sessay, Hutton Sessay, Thornton Bridge, Fawdington.	Nurse Halliday, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Hillside, Asenby. Relief Nurse Nurse Boyes, S.R.N., S.C.M., Helperby.	Tel. Topcliffe 335. Tel. Helperby 202.
+ Topcliffe, Catton, Dalton, Skipton, Eldmire.	Nurse Dickenson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., 34, East Lea, Topcliffe.	Tel. Topcliffe 316.
+ Kilburn, Birdforth.	Nurse Batty, S.R.N., S.C.M., Home Farm Cottage, Newburgh.	Tel. Coxwold 223.

+ Also Health Visitors for the area including School Nursing.

A full time Health Visitor, Miss Sanders, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., of Borrowby, Telephone Upsall 262, carries out duty including School Nursing in the Nursing area served by Nurse Bradley.

Infant Welfare Centres.

Knayton Village Institute - 1st Tuesday in each month at 2 p.m.

South Otterington (Mobile Clinic) - Tuesday every 4 weeks at 2 p.m.

Topcliffe R.A.F. Station
(Mobile Clinic) - Mondays fortnightly at 2 p.m.

Thirsk & Sowerby Institute - Thursdays fortnightly at 2 p.m.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Bulmer Area - Total Population. - 57,420

No. of births in the Area in 1960 ... 1025

No. of children vaccinated against smallpox.. 601

No. of children immunised against diphtheria (primary) in 1960. 1136

No. of children immunised against diphtheria (booster) in 1960. 561

No. of children immunised against Whooping Cough in 1960. 838

It would appear anomalous that more children were immunised against diphtheria than were actually born in the year. The explanation lies in the use by the Local Authority of the combined vaccine in place of separate vaccine for diphtheria and Whooping Cough. The combined vaccine is used at an earlier age than the single vaccine, consequently more children were inoculated during the year. I had been concerned at the fall in the proportion of children immunised against diphtheria over the years 1957-58-59, the percentage being 89, 75, 69, respectively, but in my opinion the reason was again due to a previous decision on the Minister's advice to change from combined vaccine to single ones.

It is a popular procedure with General Practitioners to combine immunisation against Tetanus but as yet no official blessing is bestowed upon this procedure, although many Local Authorities are in favour of this. Further, in other countries immunisation against poliomyelitis is combined with these injections thus reducing still further the number of injections our younger generation are having to suffer.

It is, however, surprising how stoically young children bear with the number of injections which are given; one even finds 5 year olds who say they enjoy them!

Over 90% of our young children are vaccinated against poliomyelitis, and the response in older people has been quite good, especially where facilities have been made available at places of employment. It is gratifying that no case of polio occurred during the year, the only cases occurring in the Bulmer Area since commencement of vaccination in 1956 were 2 cases in 1958, neither of which had been vaccinated.

Domestic Help Service.

This service is organised throughout the Bulmer Area from the Health Office, at Easingwold. It has not been possible to provide the extension of this service to include the Family Help Service, i.e. where a help is employed to take over all domestic duties in the absence of the sick wife, nor is a night sitter service provided as is the case in more densely populated areas.

Applicants for domestic help agree to pay the full charge of 3/-d. per hour (increased to 4/-d. from the 2nd January, 1961) or are assessed according to means. Domiciliary Confinement cases take priority, but the bulk of cases helped are the aged and chronic sick persons.

Cases helped in 1960:-

Maternity	9
Tuberculosis	1
Chronic Sick-Aged	86
Others	19

Total hours worked by domestic helps - 21,154

16 people paid the standard charge but many cases arise where the applicant finds help privately at less cost than the full charge. The National

Assistance Board contribute 5/-d. where the applicant is in receipt of a supplementary allowance and this sum is then paid to the County Council weekly. Scope exists for a streamlining of this procedure which is

wasteful in time and expense. It appears that attempts to eliminate this system have been made over a considerable period but so far without success.

Health Education.

Whilst little of a spectacular nature is done in this field, nevertheless if the efforts of the many whose work in this field were to be considered, the total would be impressive. Much of the work of doctors, nurses, health inspectors and other workers is health education - effective since it is given on an individual basis. Considerable use of posters, leaflets and material from the Central Council for Health Education was made.

Care Committee.

The Bulmer Area Care Committee is reimbursed expenditure from County Council funds up to a maximum of £10 per 1,000 population.

Hitherto its main function has been to assist cases of tuberculosis. Later its scope was enlarged to include all cases of illness. Ministry grants are not made but help with food, clothing and fuel and in other ways is available to those in need. It is also able to provide a chiropody service to the aged, and at the time of writing this extension is being arranged, including Sessions in Thirsk.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1960.

To: the Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present a report on the work done by the Council in carrying out its duties as Public Health Authority during the year ending December, 1960.

In the all important matter of water supply some real progress was made. In housing and sewerage, though both were the subject of much deliberation and planning by the Council and officials, no material results were evident by the year end.

The Ministry Local Enquiry into the Langthorpe and District Sewerage Scheme was held during the year, and the Council directed to investigate the possibility of passing the sewage into existing works of a neighbouring authority.

In my predecessor's report to the Council in 1958 he expressed the opinion that the scheme in question was on the point of commencement. It seems a reflection on the system that the project is deferred some two years later on a matter of principle as to manner of disposal.

The Council's established services for the protection of the health of the community were run efficiently, and with a minimum labour force.

The slaughterhouse nettle was firmly grasped, and if the negotiations with 'the trade' did not result in the ideal solution, a central abattoir, at least the number of private slaughterhouses was drastically reduced.

My appreciation is recorded of the services of Mr. A.N. Errington and the Council's clerical staff. Mr. M.M. Pattison was appointed as clerk in the Public Health Office during the year and has proved an asset to the department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. M. SHARPHOUSE,

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor.

WATER.

The larger part of the area, including Thirsk township itself, is supplied by the Thirsk District Water Company. The Council is the statutory water undertaker for the remainder of the district, though the small villages of Howe, Upsall and part of Kepwick rely on 'parish' supplies.

The Water Company water is mixed 'upland surface' and spring supply, with a total hardness of 103 parts per million (moderately hard). The Council takes some of its supply 'in bulk' from the Water Company, and has also deep bores at Kirby Hill and Pickhill, and a spring supply at Knayton.

Progress was made during the year on improving the supply to parts of the district worst affected by inadequate pressure and quantity.

The southern end of the mains network was boosted by a bulk supply taken through a 4" main from Angram Grange (Easingwold Rural District) and delivering into the mains at Little Hutton Sessay. A new 6" main was then laid to improve the supply to Islebeck.

A start was also made on a scheme for taking a large supply from the Ryedale Water Board's mains at Thormanby, a 9" pipe being laid to Hutton Sessay, and extended through to Topcliffe in 6" pipes.

A scheme for improving the supply to Thornton-le-Moor by linking up to the Water Company trunk main at Cowesby was commenced during the year.

HOUSING.

Though a fair amount of re-conditioning and improvement of individual dwellings was carried out during the year two factors prevented large scale action under the Housing Acts.

In the town area the small number of new Council houses (11 completed compared with the annual post-war average of 33) did little to reduce the backlog of slum dwellers awaiting re-housing, and also retarded further action to deal with unfit dwellings.

In the villages the continued lack of sewerage facilities nullified the Council's power to require water-borne sanitation and other amenities, though many property owners carried on with schemes of improvement and provided septic tanks, rather than await mains sewerage facilities.

Though the Council's new house building programme was not comparable with previous years there were indications that private enterprise was preparing for a building boom in Thirsk township on a scale only matched by the period 1925 to 1935. Schemes were approved by the Council for 110 houses on three sites in Sowerby parish.

Statement A with this section of the report shows the disposition of Council Houses throughout the area, the type of houses, and the date of completion.

Statement B shows in tabular form the results of action taken in regard to unfit houses, and is compiled from the returns (Form P.13.(Hsg.)) which is submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government.

Statement C shows the number of improvement grants approved, the Council allowing up to the maximum (£400) on Discretionary Grants Schemes during the year. It is worthy of note that the total number of improvement schemes, (Discretionary and Standard Grant) was higher than in any previous year.

Statement A.

Parish.	Total	Council Houses.			Bung.	Built
		Bedrooms..				
		2	3	4		
Ainderby Quernhow	8	3	2	1		P.W. 51
Carlton Miniott	8		6	2		51
Dalton	12		9	3		55
Kilburn	4		3	1		49
Kirby Hill	8		6	2		50
Knayton	6		2			49
			4			60
			10	6		P.W.
Langthorpe	24		4			50
				4		58
Newby Wiske	5	1	4			P.W.
Pickhill	6		5	1		53
Sessay	4		3	1		53
South Kilvington	4		4			P.W.
South Otterington	8		2			P.W.
			4	2		49
		20	37	19	14	P.W.
Sowerby	134	4	9	3		46
			10	1		52
		4	9	4		53
Thirkleby	4		3	1		51
		12	42	14	6	48
		8	14	3		52
					5	53
		26	32	16		54
Thirsk	328		4			56
		12	41	11		57
		2	31	9		58
		2	15	3	16	59
					4	60
			6			49
Thornton-le-Moor	9		3			60
Topcliffe	46		8			P.W.
			6			46
		2	3	1		53
			10	13	3	55
Total	618	96	353	121	48	

Statement B.

A. Houses Demolished.

In Clearance Areas

	Houses Demolished	Displacements	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation ...	-	-	-
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc....	-	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

Not in Clearance Areas

(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	2	9	3
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	-	-	-
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-

B. Unfit Houses Closed.

	Number		
(8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957..	12	14	4
(9) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
(10) Parts of Buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by local authority	77	-
(12) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
(13) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ...	-	-

Statement C.

Discretionary (Improvement) Grants.

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
No. Approved	1	3	18	69	45	48	59	36	60
Amount of grant	£288	£602	£4,772	£15,586	£10,085	£10,974	£13,098	£8,097	£17,677

Standard Grants.

There were 24 applications approved for the provision of the following amenities compared with 22 in 1959:-

Internal Water Closets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Baths...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Wash-basins...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Hot Water Systems...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Foodstores ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

FOOD HYGIENE.

The number of premises in this area concerned with the preparation, treatment or storage of food is as follows:-

Grocers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Green Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bakehouses...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fried Fish Shops...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cafes..	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Licenced Premises..	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Ice-Cream Manufacturers..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Market Stalls (Approx.)..	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Mobile Shops (Approx.)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Poultry Processing Factories...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS.

Number of inspections made.	...	...	...	...	...	47
Number of premises found not to comply.	...	...	...	...	...	23
Number of defects	...	...	...	...	...	27
Number remedied	...	...	...	...	...	10
Exemption Certificates issued:- Wash-hand basins ..						4
Facilities for washing food	...	...	...	...	...	3

Routine supervision of these premises was carried out as far as possible, the results of the inspections being as follows:-

Number of inspections made.	...	...	...	...	...	47
Number of premises found not to comply.	...	...	...	...	...	23
Number of defects	...	...	...	...	...	27
Number of defects remedied.	...	...	...	...	...	10

MEAT INSPECTION.

For all practical purposes a 100% inspection service has been carried out. Details and results of inspection are shown in tabular form.

	Cattle exoluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. Slaughtered	542	-	2	1165	621	-
No. Inspected	542	-	2	1165	621	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	30	-	-	-	2	-
Percentage diseased other than Tuberculosis or Cysticerci	4.87	-	-	-	.48	-
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	.16	-
Cystiscercosis:						
No evidence found.						

Weight of unsound meat voluntarily surrendered - 5 cwts. 105 lbs.

Weight of tinned foods " " - 1 cwt. 70 lbs.

As required by the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, a report was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries on the existing Slaughterhouse facilities in the area. The Minister approved 1st April, 1961, as the date by which slaughterhouses in the area must be brought up to the required standard or discontinued.

At the end of 1960 one slaughterhouse had been improved, another was being improved and proposals accepted for the improvement of two others.

It would appear that of the original 11 licensed slaughterhouses in the district 4 will remain.

Though the Council was regarded in some quarters as being unreasonable in fixing an 'appointed day' so soon after the Act came into force, there was every reason to force the issue in view of previous abortive attempts to secure reasonable proposals on slaughtering from the local butchers, and results have justified the action.

POULTRY PROCESSING.

At the year end the Dalton factory was processing about 15,000 birds a day.

The factory itself is a purpose-made building incorporating every possible piece of equipment and machinery for efficiently and hygienically converting the live fowl into an 'oven ready' article in something like 45 minutes.

Evisceration and dressing of the birds is carried out by hand, and though as in all food production human handling inevitably increases the risk of contamination, the hygiene arrangements at the factory must reduce this element to a minimum.

Because of the scale at which the plant operates, it is not practicable to carry out a routine inspection of the poultry and one must accept the experts' report to the Public Health Inspectors Conference, 1960, to the effect that " - apart from salmonellosis, there exists no disease problem of broiler chickens at the present time which should cause any serious risk to poultry attendants, processing plant workers or the consumer".

ICE-CREAM.

The Council has a duty to keep a register of premises manufacturing or selling ice-cream.

There is only one manufacturer in the area, where the ice-cream is produced by the 'hot-mix' method.

There are also 29 vendors of pre-packed ice-cream.

MILK.

The Milk supplied in the area is a bottled designated milk, chiefly produced outside the area and delivered daily by lorry to the respective dealers premises, the empty bottles being returned for cleansing.

The Council was responsible for licensing dealers (non-producers) and 19 licenses were issued, 9 in respect of pasteurised milk and 10 for tuberculin tested.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, which came into force on the 1st October transferred these duties to the County Council as from 1st January, 1961.

SEWERAGE.

No new schemes whatsoever were put in hand during the year, though in March the Council gave instructions to its Consultant Engineer to prepare scheme for all outstanding villages.

The present state as regards sewerage schemes is as follows, though the parishes already sewered as shown in column one include over half the total population of the area:-

With Satisfactory Schemes.

Thirsk
Sowerby
Carlton Miniott
Sandhutton
Kilvington
Catton
Howe
Kirby Knowle

Without Satisfactory Schemes.

Ainderby Quernhow
Bagby
Balk
Birdforth
Boltby
Cowesby
Dalton
Felixkirk
Holme
Hutton Sessay
Kepwick
Kilburn
Kirby Hill
Kirby Wiske
Knayton-with-Brawith
Langthorpe
Maunby
Milby
Newby Wiske
Newsham-with-Breckenbrough
Norton-le-Clay
Pickhill-with-Roxby
Sessay
Sinderby
Skipton
South Otterington
Sutton-under-Whitestonecliffe
Thirkleby
Thirlby
Thornton Bridge
Thornton-le-Moor
Thornton-le-Street
Topcliffe
Upsall

General housing improvement and the installation of water closets in the villages is rapidly increasing the number of septic tanks, which are not only an unnecessary expense for owners and a burden on the scavenging rate, but invariably add to stream or subsoil pollution.

Many of the old sewage tanks in the villages are now becoming badly overloaded, and gross pollution of streams and rivers is taking place. Villages worst affected are Bagby, Langthorpe, Topcliffe, Pickhill, Sinderby and Kilburn.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Council continued to give a complete refuse collection service throughout its area, dustbins being emptied weekly, apart from at a few outlying properties, and ashpits and middens were dealt with monthly.

The abolition of the latter objectionable receptacles is being retarded to a large extent by lack of sewers in certain villages.

The Council's tip at Gravel Hole Lane, Sowerby, to which all refuse in the area is taken, was controlled by a full-time attendant and no serious nuisance occurred, either from smell or vermin.

The Council's vehicles at the year end used mainly for refuse collection were as follows, an average of 16 drivers and loaders being employed on this work:-

- 2 Shelvoke & Drewry 'fore-and-aft' tippers
- 1 Austin Side-Loader (10 cub. yard)
- 1 Dennis Side-Loader (10 cub. yard)
- 1 Dennis 800 gall. Cesspool Emptier (pails and septic tanks)

The results of the scheme for the provision of litter bins by an advertising concern proved to be disappointing, apparently owing to lack of would be advertisers.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The public conveniences received the usual amount of malignant attention from unknown individuals, though in one instance the culprit was traced and dealt with by the local Police.

Several complaints of objectionable conditions and jammed turnstiles were received, and in all cases the anger of the complainant was directed at the Council instead of at the member of the general public whose irresponsible action had given rise to the conditions complained of.

The Council will accept these difficulties as the price to be paid for providing excellent conveniences for the benefit of the travelling public.

Some 166,879 people passed through the turnstiles, compared with 160,738 in 1959.

MORTUARY.

The register shows that 30 bodies in all were accommodated during the twelve months.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

No case of bed bug infestations was brought to light, and one hopes that such vermin are things of the past.

The odd complaint of cockroaches was effectively dealt with by the Rodent Operator using modern insecticidal powder.

FACTORIES ACTS.

Briefly the Council is responsible for general health provisions in factories without mechanical power, and for sanitary accommodation only in factories with mechanical power.

The particulars required by the Ministry are given on the prescribed form overleaf.

There are 78 factories on the register, and as a matter of interest a table is given classifying these industries under broad headings.

The Council's responsibility under Section 34 of the Factories Act concerning Means of Escape in Case of Fire was transferred to the County Council in December. Fourteen premises came within the scope of the Section and all had certificates in force.

1. - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Prosecutions
i. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	29	8	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	49	20	6	-
iii. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total ..	78	28	6	-

2. - Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ..	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding.. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient ..	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	4	4	-	-	-
Total ..	6	6	-	-	-

Schedule of Factories.

<u>Industry</u>					<u>Number.</u>
Agricultural Machinery	...	...	...	...	6
Armament Repairs	...	...	...	...	1
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	3
Bakeries..	...	...	...	...	5
Boot & Shoe Repairs...	...	...	...	...	2
Burling & Mending	...	...	...	...	1
Builders & Joiners	...	...	...	...	11
Coal Gas..	...	...	...	...	1
Egg Grading	...	...	...	...	1
Electrical Repairs	...	...	...	...	4
Foundries.	...	...	...	...	2
Grass Drying	...	...	...	...	1
Laundries.	...	...	...	...	2
Motor Vehicle Repairs.	...	...	...	...	15
Malting...	...	...	...	...	2
Millers...	...	...	...	...	4
Poultry Packers.	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers..	...	...	...	...	3
Printers..	...	...	...	...	2
Sawmills..	...	...	...	...	3
Scrap Dealers...	...	...	...	...	1
Slaughterhouses.	...	...	...	...	5
Tailoring.	...	...	...	...	1
Tanneries.	...	...	...	...	1
Total..					<hr/> 78 <hr/>

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The licensing powers under the Public Health Act, 1936, were superseded during the year by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, which came into force on the 29th August, 1960.

The new procedure for considering applications necessitated very close co-ordination between local and planning authorities, though no difficulty arose in this respect.

Meetings of representatives of constituent authorities were called by the North Riding Planning Committee and by the North Eastern Branch of the Public Health Inspectors Association with a view to standardizing procedure and operation of the Model Standards.

By the year end four licenses had been issued under the new Act and several applications were pending.

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A recreational site for vans in the village of Balk should provide a pleasant stopping place for those visiting the National Park.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's part-time rodent operator resigned during the year, and it was decided to appoint a full-time official. This decision made routine survey of agricultural property a feasible proposition, which will be a useful step towards control of breeding of rats throughout the area.

I N D E X.

Page	1.	Public Health Committee and Staff.
"	2.	Foreword by Medical Officer of Health.
"	3.	Details of Area & Vital Statistics.
"	4.	Causes of Death.
"	5.	Notifiable Diseases, Water Supplies.
"	6.	Sewerage and County Health Services - Nursing.
"	7.	County Health Services, Infant Welfare, Vaccination & Immunisation.
"	8.	Domestic Help Service.
"	9.	Health Education, Care Committee.
"	10.	Foreword by Public Health Inspector.
"	11.	Water Supplies.
"	12.	Housing.
"	13.	"
"	14.	"
"	15.	"
"	16.	Food Hygiene.
"	17.	Meat Inspection.
"	18.	Poultry, Ice Cream.
"	19.	Milk.
"	20.	Sewerage.
"	21.	Public Cleansing, Public Conveniences
"	22.	Mortuary, Vermin, Factories.
"	23.	Factories (prescribed particulars).
"	24.	"
"	25.	Moveable Dwellings, Rodent Control.

